GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3572
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
TRIBAL WOMEN AS WITCH
Mondal Shri Sunil Kumar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of instances of tribal women being killed by blaming them as witch;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents happened during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of action taken against the guilty during the said period; and

(d) the stringent remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a): There have been instances of tribal women being killed by being blamed as witch.

(b): Details of such incidence are not centrally maintained.

(c) & (d): These cases are dealt by the state government as per provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the CRPC. The crime also comes under the purview of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989. Some states have made specific laws to deal with the crime. Measures have also been taken to generate awareness and spread education among people to combat this evil practice.